

## New Species of *Caccoplectus*

(Coleoptera: Pselaphidae)

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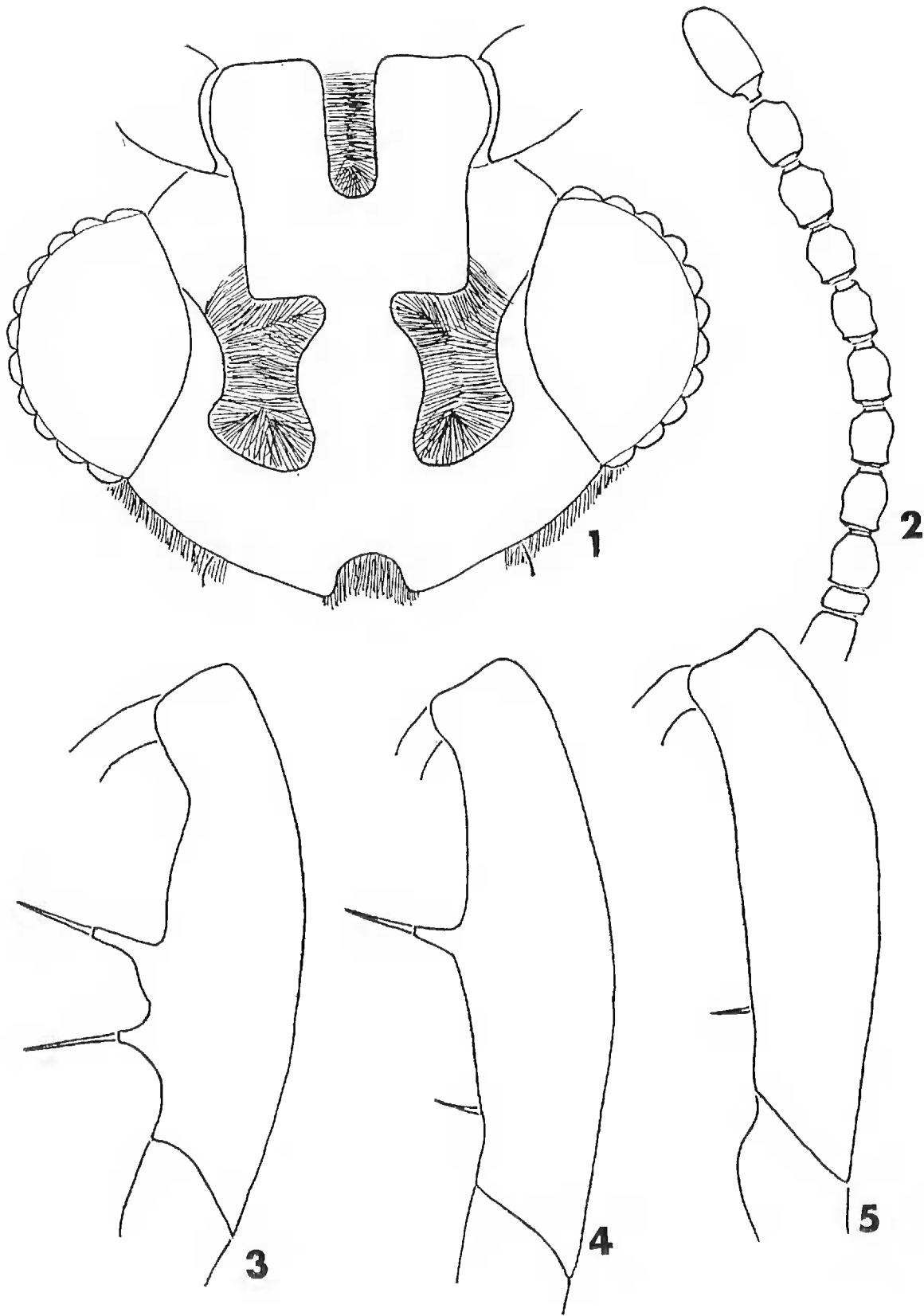
Since my recent revision of *Caccoplectus* (Chandler, 1975), two more specimens which are members of the genus were found. Although each species is represented by only a single specimen, numerous characters set them off from the other species. Both new species combine some of the characters that were used to separate the *celatus*- and *orbis*-groups. These two groups are here united to form the *celatus*-group. The genus now contains only two groups: the *spinipes*-group, separated by the vertexal sulci being hooked ventrolaterally and inhabiting the dry southern portions of the Nearctic region, and the *celatus*-group, separated by the vertexal sulci not being hooked and inhabiting the Neotropics.

So far the only known means of collecting the genus has been the use of an ultra-violet light. One of the new species was definitely collected by this means while the other was probably collected this way, but no such information was on the label. The southern range of the genus is extended from Panama to Trinidad by the collection of *C. probus*.

The new species can be separated by the following changes in Chandler's (1975) key to species:

- 5. Pro- and mesotibiae with ventral spur or protuberance near apex; antennal tubercles depressed from vertex ..... 5a
- Pro- and mesotibiae without ventral spurs near apex; antennal tubercles projecting anteriorly in same plane as vertex ..... 6
- 5a. Antennal segments disk-like; pronotum without median longitudinal sulcus at base; Panama ..... *orbis* Chandler
- Antennal segments obconical to cylindrical (Fig. 2); pronotum with median longitudinal sulcus ..... 5b
- 5b. All femora with spines (Figs. 3-5); head abruptly indented at apex (Fig. 1); Mexico ..... *improvisus* n. sp.
- Femora without spines; head straight at base (Fig. 6); Trinidad ..... *probus* n. sp.

All measurements are in millimeters. The holotypes were dissected and placed into genitalia capsules with glycerin. The heads, femora and tibiae were all drawn at the same magnification. References to pubescence in the following descriptions refer to squamous pubescence.



FIGS. 1-5. *Caccoplectus improvisus*. Fig. 1. Head. Fig. 2. Antenna. Fig. 3. Pro-femur. Fig. 4. Mesofemur. Fig. 5. Metafemur.

I would like to thank Dr. C. A. Triplehorn and Christine A. Janus for checking the manuscript.

**Caccoplectus improvisus**, new species  
(Figs. 1–5)

*Male holotype*.—El Salto de Agua, S.L.P., MEXICO. Brunnescent; pubescence filling median notch at base of head and extending in complete circle to the venter, median crest above eyes descending to oblique, flattened antennal tubercles; eyes large, approximately 50 facets; antennomeres IV–XI obconical, XI rounded at apex. Pronotum with short median longitudinal sulcus at base, pubescence filling median antebasal fovea and extending to base through median sulcus, pubescence unbroken from lateral margins across anterior margin of prosternum. Elytron with all striae reaching apex, apex with margin of pubescence. Pubescence filling prepectoid and mesosternal foveae. Pro- and mesofemora each with two ventral spines, one near base and another near middle, metafemora with spine near base; protibiae and mesotibiae with ventral spur near apex.

Visible sternites II–V with one lateral fovea on each side, VI bisinuate at apex, anterior margins of II–V with band of pubescence, band on IV–V broken at middle, I–II with band of pubescence at apex, II with band broken for one-fourth of width at middle, III–IV with small tufts of pubescence near lateral margins; tergites I–IV with one lateral fovea on each side, II–III with pubescent bands on anterior margins, III with band broken for one-third of length at middle, I with apical band broken for one-fourth of length at middle, II with small bands of pubescence near lateral margins.

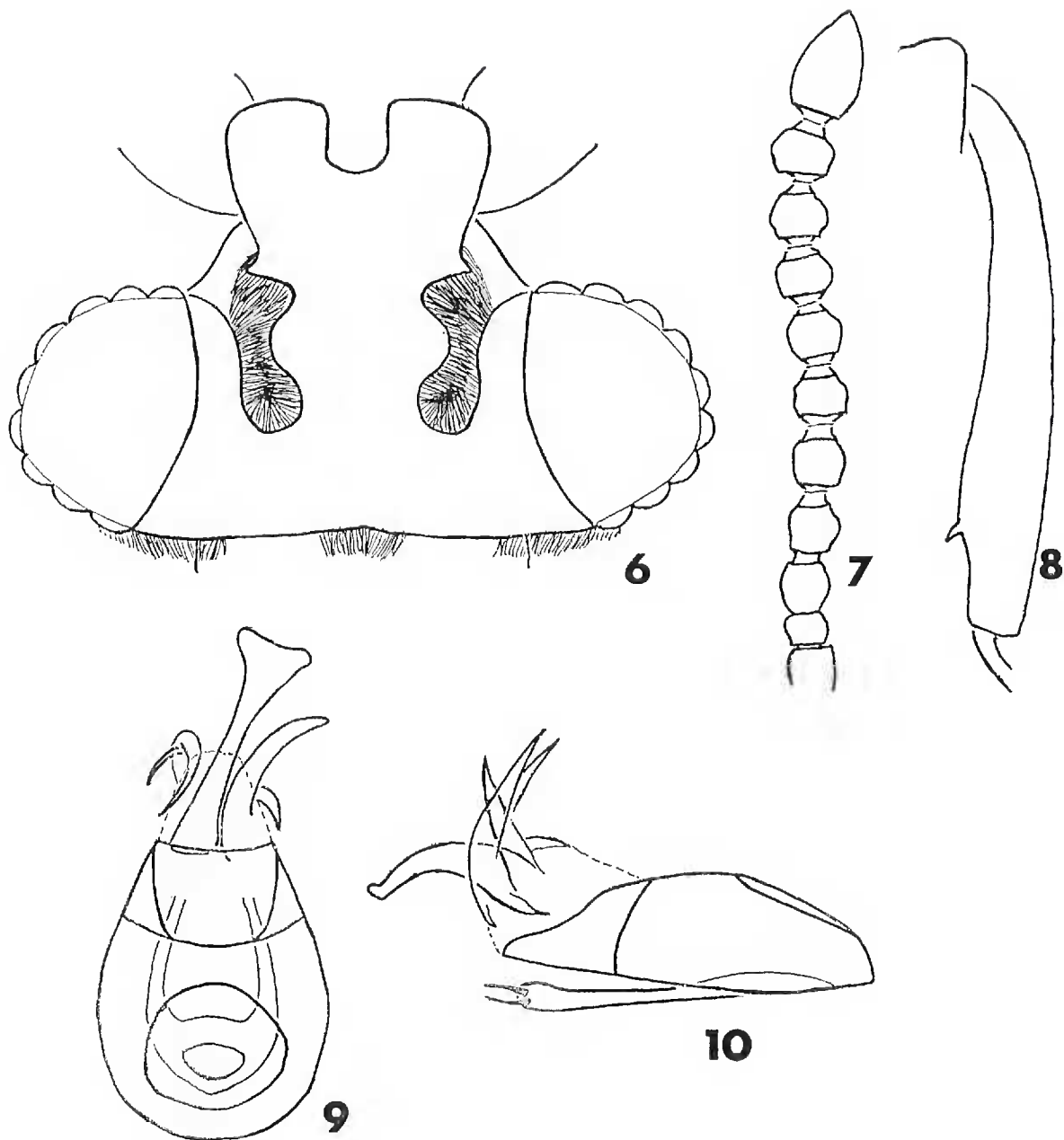
Length 2.22. Head 0.39 long, 0.56 across eyes, 0.20 wide across base of antennal tubercles, median antennal sulcus 0.11 long, length antennomeres I–XI: I 0.12, II 0.06, III 0.12, IV 0.13, V 0.13, VI 0.14, VII 0.14, VIII 0.14, IX 0.14, X 0.14, XI 0.22. Pronotum 0.41 long, 0.42 wide at base, 0.30 wide at apex, width between pubescence in median fovea and lateral foveae 0.06, median longitudinal sulcus 0.06 long. Elytra 0.72 long at median suture, 0.56 wide across humeri. Lengths from base to spines on profemur: spine 1 0.08, spine 2 0.14; lengths from base to spines on mesofemur: spine 1 0.50, spine 2 0.18; 0.70 long from base to spine on metafemur; spur on protibia 0.35 from base, spur on mesotibia 0.32 from base.

*Female*.—Unknown.

*Distribution*.—Holotype male: El Salto de Agua, San Luis Potosi, MEXICO, 20 June 1975, UV lt., D. S. Chandler. The holotype is to be deposited at the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago.

**Caccoplectus probus**, new species  
(Figs. 6–10)

*Male holotype*.—Simla, TRINIDAD, West Indies. Brunnescent; head with pubescence in two small tufts at middle of base, continuing from behind eyes across venter; median crest above eyes descending to oblique, flattened antennal tubercles; eyes large, approximately 50 facets; antennomeres IV–X obconical, XI pointed at apex. Pronotum with short median longitudinal sulcus at base, pubescence filling median antebasal fovea and extending to base through median



FIGS. 6-10. *Caccoplectus probus*. Fig. 6. Head. Fig. 7. Antenna. Fig. 8. Pro-tibia. Fig. 9. Dorsal view genitalia. Fig. 10. Lateral view genitalia.

sulcus, pubescence in lateral foveae extending to lateral margins, pubescence broken for wide distance on anterior margin of prosternum, present only at lateral margins. Elytron with all striae reaching apex, apex with margin of pubescence, pubescence filling prepectoid and mesosternal foveae; pro- and mesotibiae with spur on ventral side near apex; no modifications of femora.

Visible sternites II-V with one lateral fovea on each side, VI evenly rounded at apex, anterior margin of II-V with bands of pubescence, separated at center by one-third sternite width on IV-V, I-III with bands of pubescence at apex, band on II separated by one-fourth of width, band on III by one-third of width; tergites I-IV with one lateral fovea on each side, II-III with bands on anterior margin slightly interrupted at center, I-II with bands at apex, interrupted at center in II, V with small dorsal projection at center of lateral margins.

Length 2.16. Head 0.32 long, 0.50 across eyes, 0.16 wide across base of antennal tubercles, median antennal sulcus 0.06 long, length antennomeres I–XI: I 0.14, II 0.04, III 0.12, IV 0.12, V 0.12, VI 0.12, VII 0.12, VIII 0.12, IX 0.12, X 0.12, XI 0.20. Pronotum 0.37 long, 0.36 wide at base, 0.30 wide at apex, width between pubescence of median fovea and lateral foveae 0.10, median longitudinal sulcus 0.04 long. Elytra 0.64 long at median suture, 0.52 wide across humeri; spur on protibiae 0.31 from base, spur on mesotibiae 0.29 from base. Genitalia with penis extruded, penis consisting of several sclerotized parts.

*Female*.—Unknown.

*Distribution*.—Holotype male: Simla, TRINIDAD, West Indies, 24/30 April 1963, M. Emsley. The holotype is to be deposited in the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University.

#### LITERATURE CITED

- CHANDLER, DONALD S. 1975. A revision of *Caccoplectus* (Coleoptera: Pselaphidae). *Coleopt. Bull.* 29: 301–316.

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#### BOOK REVIEW

BIOGRAFFITI: A NATURAL SELECTION. John M. Burns. Quadrangle/The New York Times Book Co., 10 East 53 Street, New York, New York 10022. xv + 112 pages; 52 illustrations. \$6.95.

Thomas Hood, in his memoirs, wrote, "The sense of humor is the just balance of all the faculties of man, the best security against the pride of knowledge and the conceits of the imagination . . ." It might be added that well concocted humor serves an even more important function of providing enjoyment and pleasure. Unhappily, biologists are mostly a serious lot who have chosen to view their discipline with a stern eye. This little volume by John Burns is a decided exception, which is destined to join Garstang's *Larval Forms* and Stumpke's *The Snouters* as a classic of biological tongue-in-cheek. The form of humor most utilized is the pun, and *BioGraffiti* could be compared with Felicia Lamport's *Scrap Irony*. But Burns' economical verse conveys more than double entendre. Each poem stands independently as an irreverent ode to some organism, or in some cases to an abstract biological concept, such as group selection, speciation or biomodelling. Selections range in length from the pithy "To a Lonely Hermaphrodite" (Know Thyself) to "Drosophila in Paradise," a three page epic tale of the adaptive radiation of fruit flies on the Hawaiian Islands. Burns' broad knowledge of natural history and unpretentious views of modern biology shine through all. Complementing the verse are cleverly chosen illustrations gleaned from old monographs, reports of expeditions and other works. A glossary explaining specialized terms follows the text, and contains one or two additional bits of humor. For the stolid and lighthearted alike, for the professional biologist as well as the interested layman, *BioGraffiti* offers a creative departure from the humdrum certainty of daily endeavor.—EDITOR